

International Application No.: PCT/JP03/00415

International Filing Date: 20 January 2003

U.S. Application No.: 10/542,867

Preliminary Amendment

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 35, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fig. 5 shows the results of multiple alignment of the amino acid sequences of juvenile hormone acid methyltransferases derived from *Bombyx mori* (SEQ ID NO: 2), *Drosophila melanogaster* (SEQ ID NO: 4), *Anopheles gambiae* (SEQ ID NO: 6), *Spodoptera litura* (SEQ ID NO: 8), and *Helicoverpa armigera* (SEQ ID NO: 10). Sl indicates the juvenile hormone acid methyltransferase derived from *Spodoptera litura*, Ag from *Anopheles gambiae*, Ha from *Helicoverpa armigera*, Bm from *Bombyx mori*, and Dm from *Drosophila melanogaster*.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 38, line 33, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The amino acid sequence of the juvenile hormone acid methyltransferase of *Bombyx mori* (SEQ ID NO: 2) and the amino acid sequence of the juvenile hormone acid methyltransferase of *Drosophila melanogaster* (SEQ ID NO: 4) were compared. Based on well-conserved regions of both amino acid sequences , two degenerate primers were prepared: the DGJF primer (SEQ ID NO: 19; encoding the amino acid sequence of MVKYANKH (SEQ ID NO: 36)) as a forward primer and the DGJR primer (SEQ ID NO: 20; encoding the amino acid sequence of FDHVFSFY (SEQ ID NO: 37)) as a reverse primer. These primers were used to synthesize cDNAs by reverse transcription of RNAs extracted from the corpora allata of penultimate instar larvae of *Spodoptera litura* and *Helicoverpa armigera*. The cDNAs were used as templates for their respective PCRs, providing DNA fragments of about 120bp. Their nucleotide sequences were then determined, and specific primers were designed based on these sequences. Then 5' RACE and 3' RACE, a kind of modified RT-PCR, were carried out using SMART RACE cDNA Amplification Kit (CLONTECH CO.) to clone cDNAs

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containing the entire coding region of the juvenile hormone acid methyltransferases from
Spodoptera litura and *Helicoverpa armigera*.

Please delete the section of the application entitled "Sequence Listing"
immediately after the section of the application entitled Abstract on page 43 and insert
the enclosed Sequence Listing therefor.